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# **Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/524,322

Examiner

Jimmy T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

FUTAMURA ET AL.

Art Unit

3725

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/2/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

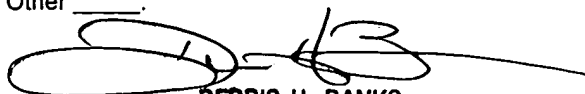
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## **Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 2/9/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.



**DERRIS H. BANKS**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Darren Kang on March 10, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In claim 1, line 5:**

The word "and" has been replaced with ---- , -----.

**In claim 1, line 8:**

The word "and" has been deleted.

**In claim 1, between lines 8 and 9, the following paragraphs have been inserted:**

----- displacement measuring devices are provided near the respective engaging portions to measure a displacement of the slide plate,

a control device for control driving of each of the drive sources, and -----.

**In claim 2, line 5:**

The word "and" has been replaced with ---- , -----.

**In claim 2, line 8:**

The word "and" has been deleted.

**In claim 2, between lines 8 and 9, the following paragraphs have been inserted:**

----- displacement measuring devices are provided near the respective engaging portions to measure a displacement of the slide plate,  
a control device for control driving of each of the drive sources, and -----.

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the claim is allowable because the art of record, considered alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious "a press forming method comprising the steps of press forming a work piece at descending speeds of the plurality of drive sources in a trial forming, .... *wherein in the delay adjustment step, each of the descending speeds of the plurality of drive sources is adjusted by a speed increment that the delay difference becomes less than or equal to the predetermined value, and in the driving speed increasing step, the descending speeds for the plurality of driving sources are adjusted to increase more than in the delay adjustment step and close to the target speeds of the production forming*", in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

Regarding claim 2, the claim is allowable because the art of record, considered alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious "a press forming method comprising the steps of repeating the step of preparing the compensation increment and the steps following the step of preparing the compensation increment, until the difference between the reference delay and the displacement delay becomes less than or equal to the predetermined value and until the difference between the descending speed and the target speed becomes within the predetermined speed difference, and if the difference between the reference delay and the displacement delay

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*becomes less than or equal to the predetermined value and the difference between the descending speed and the target speed becomes within the predetermined speed difference, press forming a workpiece at the descending speed for each of the plurality of drive sources in a production forming*”, in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

US 6,595,122 to Mukai et al. discloses a press forming machine having a slide plate (7), servo motors (11 see fig. 8); control means (222) for controlling the driving of motor; a slides displacement measuring means and reference plate (fig. 2). Mukai teaches that the correcting data be obtained from “a trial run” (col. 9, lines 36-52) and reaffirms the content and origin of the correcting data and further explains it is stored (col.9, lines 62-65).

JP 2000 79500 discloses a press forming machine having a slide plate (4), linear motors (8-11); displacement measuring devices (12-15); control means (20) for controlling the driving of motor.

US 6,189,364 to Takada discloses a press forming machine having a ram (2), servo motors (11a-d); displacement measuring devices (14a-d); control means (20) for controlling the driving of motor.

US 6,810,704 to Futamura et al. discloses a press forming machine having a slide plate (40), servo motors (60a-e); displacement measuring devices (50a-j); control means (92) for controlling the driving of motor.

US 4,828,474 to Ballantyne discloses the use of a “preliminary process (trial runs)” to obtain expected relative deflection data (col. 2, lines 49-51) in the art of maintaining press platen in a parallel relationship.

However, neither the prior art references of record nor any combination thereof discloses the specific measurement and adjustment of the drive sources as claimed in claims 1 and 2.

Therefore, it is concluded by the Examiner that claims 1-5 of the present invention are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4520. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am - 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571) 272- 4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

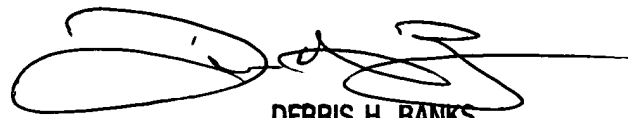
JTNguyen

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March 10, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derris H. Banks', with a large loop on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right.

**DERRIS H. BANKS**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700**